

The

Mt. Lemmon Echoes

Serving the Homeowners of Mt. Lemmon

"You can overlook Tucson, but you can't overlook Mt Lemmon"

Message From The Pres.

By Debbie Fagan



With September just around the corner, rebuilding on the mountain seems to be moving at an accelerated pace, along with the anticipation of cabins being completed by the holidays. And what better place to spend Thanksgiving and Christmas, than nestled high above Tucson in our little piece of heaven. A good friend of mine recently let me stay at her cabin in Bear Wallow for a couple of weeks and I found it to be considerably cooler there than in Summerhaven. There were actually a couple of nights when her bathroom brought back memories of my cold, rustic one and having to wait a few minutes to recover from the frigid shock. That led me to wonder if my new one will be warmer. (What do you think Dennis?) Either way, I'm looking forward to living amongst my friends again. Just the thought of that gets me through the challenge each day can bring. Hope to see you all on the mountain next month



Chili Cook-off



It appears that we will not be able to have the Chili Cook-off and Pie Sale/Children's Events we had hoped for this year due to lack of adequate space at any of the preferred locations. The MLCEC's will keep you posted as they attempt to hold future community events



Fire District Update

By The Barnella's

There have been some misconceptions and erroneous information regarding the **black tree clean up** on Mt. Lemmon.

1. The cutting down and removal of black trees on private property is **not free of charge**. If you wish, the Mt. Lemmon Fire Department (MLFD) will cut down and remove the standing dead trees from your property in return for a donation to help cover payroll and equipment costs. The cost for removing trees from a regular size lot (50 x 100) has been averaging \$500 to \$2,000 per lot. It all depends on the number and size of the trees and access to your property. A MLFD representative can meet with you to determine about how much it will cost to cut the trees down on your lot. You can pay ahead of time, as the checks are not deposited until the work on your lot is completed. Contact DeAnna Barnella, either by phone (576-1201) or fax (576-3095) to arrange that. Fax works best for her on the mountain. You will also receive a letter stating that the money is a contribution to the MLFD Hazard Fuels Abatement program. You must sign a Liability Release Form, giving MLFD permission to go onto your property to cut down the trees. This gives ownership of the cut trees to the MLFD to dispose of them in the most efficient manner. Any trees you want cut down must be marked with an X. Call MLFD (576-1201) or log on to www.Summerhavenfire.com, download, print and fill out the release form. Fax it or mail it to MLFD, P.O. Box 759 Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619.

2. MLFD is cutting down the dead/hazard trees on private property in phases, in order to facilitate the cutting and removal most efficiently (cost/time). We started with Carter Canyon and are moving in the direction that the firestorm hit the community. As of now, the areas that will be targeted, in order, are:

- Carter Canyon, Miner's Ridge, Miami areas (almost complete)
- Phoenix Avenue, Winkelman, Hayden, Upper Goat Hill areas (Aug./Sept)
- Loma Linda Extension, Tempe, Florence, Ray Avenue (lower) areas (Sept / Oct)

NOTE (1): MLFD wishes the property owners on the mountain to understand that, with all the scheduled work, we are under staffed. Sometimes, arranged meetings or projects are interrupted by emergency calls, which are our first priority. We are asking that you be patient and that you understand we are doing all we can with the resources we have available. The job will get done but it will take time and patience on the part of everyone.

NOTE: (2) Exceptions to the phase order are being made for property owners who are getting close to breaking ground on their property and/or having septic tanks installed. Contact DeAnna (see above) within 2 weeks of breaking ground on your property. The objective of MLFD for this project is to assist the Community in the rebuilding process.

NOTE: (3) Holliday Timber was removing trees at no cost in exchange for the salvage rights to the logs. They have since left the area and returned to New Mexico for the summer. As a result, the MLFD has to burn wood and it is slowing down the hazard/dead tree removal process considerably. Holliday Timber is expected back in September.

If you have received a letter from Pima County threatening a fine for property that still has standing hazard/dead trees and:

- You have already signed a Liability Release Form and it is on file with MLFD and your trees have been marked with an X, Pima County will stop any further enforcement action. If there is any question as to whether or not you have a Liability Release Form on file, contact DeAnna Barnella. Fax is the best way.
- Your black trees are still standing and you wish to have MLFD take down and remove your standing black trees, follow the directions (#1) above.

The **Arizona Department of Insurance** will hold a meeting in Tucson to meet with Mt. Lemmon homeowners about insurance issues.

Here is the date, time and location of the meeting:

Wednesday, September 29, 2004

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

State of Arizona Building

400 W. Congress

North Building

Conference Room 158

Tucson, Arizona

Please mark your calendars and try to attend !

Septic System Permits for Mt. Lemmon

The Pima County Department of Environmental Quality (PDEQ) issues septic system permits on Mt. Lemmon to make sure that systems meet all of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's requirements (www.deq.pima.gov). These requirements were established to protect our groundwater. Groundwater is used for drinking water and Sabino Creek is identified as a drinking water source. Properly designed systems will also prevent other health problems such as surfacing wastewater.

Since the fire, PDEQ has received 30 applications for new septic systems. Of these, 23 have been issued permits and 7 are awaiting additional information. 63 other properties have been recertified since the fire did not damage their previously permitted septic systems. To date, 86 systems have been approved for cabin reconstruction.

Many residents have asked PDEQ why they need to construct a new system when their old un-permitted system seemed to work. The requirement for a permit is to ensure that, as cabins are re-built, their septic systems are designed to accommodate the cabins' potential use. To do this, we must take into account the soil type, the depth of soil on the property, as well as the size of the cabin, assuming that the cabins are lived in on a year-round basis. We do this because, while the cabin may currently only be used during the weekends and summer, usage could change and future owners may want to use the cabin full time. Previously permitted systems can be reused for new cabins that are the same size (same # of bedrooms) as the old ones.

PDEQ is available to discuss the process and requirements for septic system permits on Mt. Lemmon with property owners, contractors or any other interested party. Please contact Eric Shepp at 740-3959 in order to schedule an appointment..

Aspen Fire clean up

"During the Aspen Fire clean up Pima County offered the residents of Summerhaven the opportunity to dispose of concrete rubble to the crusher site. This service was offered between September through December 2003. There was no charge for the disposal of "superstructure concrete". However, there was a charge of \$8.00 per cubic yard for "substructure concrete". Each load of concrete was documented by a load ticket signed by the property owner, or his representative, and the County's representative at the crusher site.

The County is in the process of preparing the invoices for reimbursement for this service. Those of you who used this service will be receiving a bill within the next few weeks.

Should you have any questions regarding the amount of the bill please contact Michael Sadowski at (520) 407-2847."

Water Co OP/District

By Mike Stanley

The weather has been kind this last month. The monsoons have produced a little over 8" of rain. The spring flow is steady at 10 gallons per minute. Our first big rain storm was over 2.5" and caused some erosion. To prevent damage to some of the water lines Nathan and I used the backhoe to clear some of the culverts. It is nice to see the rain.

We really appreciate the customers that conserved water. We were at a low point on stored water due to several leaks. The biggest leak was at the Sabino Tank. A main valve cracked and caused a leak of 3 to 4 gallons per minute. The leak was repaired and the pump and main line was returned to service. Another leak started just past the repair. The system was shut down and repaired then returned to service. A third leak happened just past that repair. This leak lost about 70,000 gallons of water when the in-flow was at 5 gallons per minute. All of these leak problems were on the 4" PVC pump main and prevented pumping water to our Miners Ridge Tank. When there is a leak on a plastic line it requires at least 24 hours to allow the glue to dry. This problem required 5 days to get the line secured and able to pump water. There were several more leaks due to construction. The main line that supplies the south side of the Upper Loma Linda area was damaged and required a new route due to the existing location of the main. The contractor called for blue stake to locate the underground facilities. The main was missed when we located the 5 main lines in the area. Nathan and I replaced the main line via a new route. Of course the area had a massive amount of rock to get through. As we dug the new ditch it became obvious why the old line was inches deep and was placed next to the foundation of the house. This leak lost about 12,000-gallons of water. We repaired other leaks as they were reported.

The District process should be final by 8/30/04. The loan papers will be signed this week and the Arizona Corporation Commission approval should be before the end of the month. FEMA has approved the Carter Project and has funding for the repair of the fire related damage. They have approved and will fund the installation of the 6" main line from the Carter Canyon Tank to the tie-in point at the main road and Upper Goat Hill Road. This main line will enable better service and fire protection to the area. We are still awaiting approval from FEMA for funding of the 6" main line from the Loma Linda Tank south to Middle Sabino Road. The 800,000-gallon tank in Upper Sabino is on hold due to the needed removal of 4 hazard trees at the tank site. The Forest Service is working with the National Fish and Wildlife Agency to expedite the approval. This tank is in the endangered species area, which allows construction between August and March. This limits the amount of work due to snow and freezing temperatures in the winter months. We hope to get the approval this year and at least start the preparation for the tank installation in 2005.

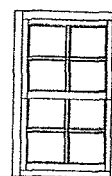
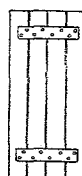
Register to Vote using your Mt. Lemmon address

By Chip DeLay
Chairman MLFD

Register to Vote using your Mt. Lemmon address. Go to www.servicearizona.com and you can change your Voter's Registration address for free. They offer a home address and a mailing address, so you can use your ML address even if your cabin is not there yet. You have to say "Summerhaven" as the town-the ADOT computer does not recognize Mt. Lemmon as a town. It will also automatically change the address on any vehicles registered in your name, and your Driver's License, too. For an extra \$4.00, they will print and mail you the Driver's License.

There are at least three very qualified candidates running for two open MLFD Board of Trustees seats this November. You can't vote for them if you aren't registered on ML. You can get an absentee ballot to vote from Tucson if you don't relish a trip to the Fire Station next November 2.

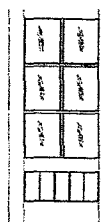
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REBUILDING DISCOUNTS FOR MT. LEMMON PROJECTS

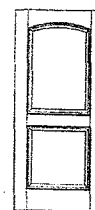
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Trees for Mt Lemmon

By Barbara Eisele

Tree Distribution and Planting:

It's been a busy month for Trees for Mt Lemmon. We distributed trees on three days. Property owners took approximately 500 trees to plant on their land. Some people, Carol Bender, to name one, planted trees for four different friends and neighbors.... Thanks and Yeah for Carol. I know there were others who helped neighbors. You know who you are so give yourselves a big pat on the back.

John Jones arranged for volunteers to work on the Loma Sabino Homeowner's Association common area near Yuma and Upper Loma Linda. There was a lot of preparation to the area and 27 trees were planted as well. Thanks John for your efforts.

I Love Mt. Lemmon T-Shirts

There are T-shirts for sale with the "I Love Mt. Lemmon" heart design on them available for purchase. This is the design created by Emily Benziger, daughter of Linda and Phil Benziger, when she was 14 years old! It has since become the Mt. Lemmon logo for many of us, originally printed on bumper stickers just prior to the Aspen Fire and now seen on countless vehicles' bumpers, both on Mt. Lemmon and in Tucson! The proceeds from the T-shirt sales will go to Trees For Mt. Lemmon, Fire and Water. Shirts are \$15.00. Call Nancy Alfonso if you would like a shirt 299-9472 or watch for them at Trees for Mt Lemmon events.

What is it: A Weed? A Flower? An Alien?

Susan Benson has offered to help property owners identify what is growing on their lot. If you are interested in having Susan come to your lot you can call her at 887-5923 to arrange a time. Susan has extensive knowledge about Mt. Lemmon vegetation and she would be happy to be of assistance in identifying what is growing on your lot. Thank you, Susan!

Demonstration Garden is flourishing.

If you have not already done so, stop by the General Store and Gift Shop and see the demonstration garden to get ideas for what to plant on your lot. There is a yellow handout that tells about the plants.

Mt. Lemmon Seed Mix:

Trees for Mount Lemmon, working with the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension and a grant from the UA Forest Health Program, has developed the Mt. Lemmon Seed Mix. These seeds include grasses to provide fast stabilization of the upper soil layers; legumes to assist in fertilization; and other wildflowers to provide beauty and attract useful and interesting critters such as butterflies, birds, bees and deer. All the plants chosen are indigenous (native to the mountain) and available in bulk. Different seeds will germinate best in different exposures, so no matter where your site is located, you

will have an interesting mix of plants bloom. Thanks to the Mt. Lemmon Women's Club and Judy Epstein's volunteers, all 1,300 packets (80 pounds) were labeled in a couple of hours. THANK YOU ALL. We have had two classes so far with a great turnout of neighbors both times. Two sites on the mountain were seeded as demonstration areas so keep an eye for the blooms this Spring! Visit our website www.treesformtlemonn.org for the schedule of classes, a listing of the plants, instructions on planting and FAQs. The monsoon is the best time to plant these seeds!



Seed Packet Labeling: Above – Judy's volunteers. Below - The Mt. Lemmon Women's Club 8/7/04



The Trees For Mount Lemmon website is a work in progress. It is now being hosted by RiskINFO (www.riskinfo.com) of California, the company that has been hosting the Mt. Lemmon Message Board. We would like to thank Kino Digital (www.kinodigital.com) of Tucson and Phoenix for the original design and development work. We will be putting all

Carol Bender
Distributing Mt.
Lemmon Seed
Mix 8/14/04



of our class information, plant lists and other pertinent information for property owners on the website. If there is information that you would like to see on the site, send us an email. (See the 'Contact Us' tab on the website)
www.treesformtlemon.org.

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Mt. Lemmon Woman's Club

Linda Mulay, President
327-4615, 576-1417

We could learn a lot from crayons: some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull, some have weird names, and all are different colors, but they all have to learn to live in the same box!

Steve Hensel gave a very informative talk to us at the August meeting on the history of the trees on Mt Lemmon.

Our last Bunko night for the year was in August, everyone that attended had a great time.

The next meeting of the Woman's Club will be Saturday September 18th, 1:00 pm at the mountain home of Linda Benziger. Call her at 576-1152 for directions. We will have a speaker from Civano Nursery.

Mt. Lemmon Ski Valley

By Jay Davies

The Iron Door will continue to serve Friday, Saturday and Sunday breakfasts - this really is a great spot to have some delicious breakfast specialties. The deck is cool and the view of the slopes is special summer or winter! It's open till 7:00 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

One of the mountain's best secrets is the Grub Stake. Its open ski side on Saturdays and Sundays with BBQ sandwiches, nachos, chili, and lots of snacks (including freshly made brownies), drinks and beer. You are practically sitting on the slopes, so it is the prettiest spot on the mountain to just sit and have a snack.

Put Oktoberfest on your calendar !!

Starting September 18th and running weekends through October 10th, Oktoberfest is held ski side with great German food and beer served on the decks. Bring a blanket and enjoy the afternoon relaxing on the slopes or join the dancers in the "Chicken Dance." The Norm Seiss Band is again joining us to entertain from 12:30 to 4:30 with great German music. The Motherlode has a beautiful selection of German steins and The Miner's Sweet Tooth will be whipping up German Chocolate fudge. Parking is \$4.00, but there is no charge for the entertainment. Please no outside food or drinks allowed.

See ya there !

Other Insurance News

By EdnaHackney

Public awareness is a key element in applying pressure on insurance companies to address problems of underinsurance. The following are some of the news segments that have been produced about the ASPEN fire and its insurance effects

Reporter Ted Robbins of KUAT-TV's Arizona Illustrated produced a segment which aired Aug. 11 about the underinsurance problems in our community.. He has been a good friend of the mountain village and spent time interviewing Bill Piatkiewicz and Gerry and Eden Hackney about our frustrating battle to negotiate fair settlements with insurance companies.

In July, KPHO-TV Ch.5, in Phoenix, aired an in-depth story about Mt. Lemmon. Investigative Reporter, Morgan Loew traveled to Tucson and Summerhaven to interview fire loss victims. Bill Piatkiewicz, Ross Quigley, and Eden Hackney told the interviewer that the reimbursement cost per sq. ft. offered by the insurance companies would not replace their cabins.

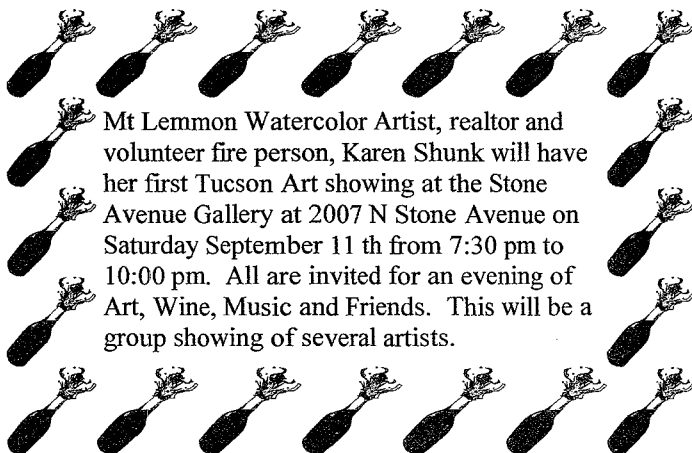
Tucson Citizen Newspaper reporter, Brad Branan, also provided an article on July 24th in which he interviewed Fred Pace, homeowner, Bill Jones, Pima County building official and Erin Klug of the Department. of Insurance.

Thanks to Mt. Lemmon Rescue E.M.T.s

By Roy Haskell

My wife Patty Haskell slipped and fell after the July 4th parade at our cabin. She heard the leg bone pop and break as she fell. We called 911 and really got a good fast response by several Mt. Lemmon rescue EMT's and Fire Department. They got her into the ambulance and then the helicopter very carefully and soon she was at University Hospital Trauma Room for surgery in the Operating Room that night.

Again, many thanks to all the good people in the Mt. Lemmon Fire Department for Great Service.



Mt Lemmon Watercolor Artist, realtor and volunteer fire person, Karen Shunk will have her first Tucson Art showing at the Stone Avenue Gallery at 2007 N Stone Avenue on Saturday September 11 th from 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm. All are invited for an evening of Art, Wine, Music and Friends. This will be a group showing of several artists.

STACY TOOL

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2004 membership dues are past due. The Echoes is the publication of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association for its membership. Membership dues are \$25 annually. Renters and "Friends of the Mountain" may obtain an association membership for \$20. Send your checks to MLHO, P.O. Box 699, Mt. Lemmon, AZ 85619. This Echoes is brought to you courtesy of the Mt. Lemmon Homeowners Association. It's one of the benefits of being a member. Board members are Debbie Fagan, President; Ross Quigley, vice-President; Carrie Reitz, Treasurer Fran Zimmerman, Secretary; John Mulay; Pete Krauss; Tom Thomas; Don Underhill; Larry Waldron; David Ostapuk, Kathy Shields; Chip DeLay; Bonnie Lohman and Gordon Hunter (editor of the Echoes). If you have any suggestions or comments, I can be reached at 298-5971 or by Email at gnhunter@mindspring.com.